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Sectional Conferences, R. K. Bliss - Chairman

VERTICAL FIRST CAN SUPERVISORS FURTHER ASSIST WITH LAND USE PLANNING?

Home Economics Section

Mrs. Sarah Porter Ellis, Chairman Summarized by Mrs. Eunice Pardee Miss Mildred F. Sailor

The women discussed orienting the home demonstration staff to the Land Use Planning. They started by defining Land Use Planning meetings as being community visits, analyzing what is being done, and what needs to be done.

In brief, following are the main points brought out by the discussion:

- 1. Land Uso Planning is a process of studying and analyzing land problems to which rural people have much to contribute.
- 2. Home demonstration agents need help from supervisors to be oriented to Land Use Planning and in arranging time to be devoted to this planning in relation to the home.
- 3. It was suggested that home economics specialists might well attend local and county planning meetings for the purpose of getting information on how the people are thinking and about standards of living in the communities.
- 4. The thought was expressed that to some persons the term "Land Use Planning" is ill chosen. The result is that there has been too little participation on the part of the women in these meetings. The group agreed that invitations worded to include both men and women would help to break down the feeling that women were not expected at the meetings. Publicity might well lay emphasis on the part that the farm women contribute to Land Use Planning.
- 5. The group felt that not all women will be interested in land mapping, but farming is a mutual operation, and both men and women should know about their land and farm. Cases are numerous where the farm woman has had to become the sole operator of the farm. Many instances were cited of women who were greatly interested and fully informed about the land.
- 6. One of the difficulties in getting the women to participate in some communities was due to the fact that there are barriers in traditional family patterns which are affected by nationality, religion, or language.
- 7. It was agreed that home demonstration and agricultural agents must think together on the whole subject of Land Use Planning.

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- 8. It must be kept in mind that we cannot measure success or failure on a basis of 100 percent participation.
- 9. The question was raised about how more staff could be obtained to help correlate the demonstration work to Land Use Planning.
- 10. An important point discussed was, "Shall we discard our present Home Economics Plan?" The group agreed that we should not discard our present plans, but rather that we should reorganize the work so that more time can be devoted to Land Use Planning findings in relation to the home.

HOW CAN SUPERVISORS FURTHER ASSIST WITH LAND USE PLANNING? Agricultural Section

H. G. Gould, Section Chairman Summarized by C. H. Teagarden H. W. Herbison

The discussions of the personnel of county Land Use Planning committees indicated that although various methods were used in different States, as well as different counties within the same State, eventually each county Land Use Planning committee has representatives selected from the various communities as well as farm representatives of various agencies with a program in the county.

A discussion on the manner in which supervisors could assist with the Land Use Planning work first brought out the desirability of the supervisors' being informed about Land Use Planning as well as its activities. Supervisors can best become informed by studying the plan and by attending county and community meetings. The supervisors should also be able to assist in the interpretation of the results of the planning committees. The discussion also indicated that the supervisors should assist the county agent in planning the Land Use Planning. In doing this it became evident that such planning would open up additional time for the many activities which have been assigned to county extension workers.

Because of the definite problems being developed in Land Use Planning, supervisors will have the responsibility of assisting in the development of area programs. Such programs may be for areas within a county or for areas involving part of all or one county. An example of the necessity for an area program was developed in a Missouri county where the same extension program was being applied to all sections of the county, although in one area the average farm income was \$430 per farm while in another area it was over \$3,000.

As Land Use Planning continues, its program will broaden and gradually include a study of a greater variety of problems than was included at the time the program was initiated. At the same time Extension will be relieved of many of its preliminary planned activities and be thereby enabled to devote its efforts to a more intensified program based on the major problems.

Discussions also indicated that supervisors must look further ahead to sense the problems which are developing and to anticipate the development of the programs of the action agencies.

The manner in which specialists could assist with Land Use Planning was also discussed. Discussion indicated that specialists should be informed about the Land Use Program and that they, too, would find it profitable to attend county and community Land Use Planning meetings. Specialists have an excellent opportunity to assist planning committees with background material, particularly when recommendations are being considered relative to a new activity. For example, a planning committee may feel that irrigation should be developed in a certain portion of a county. The specialist, being

familiar with similar areas in other sections of the State, will be in a position to assist the committee with this recommendation. Very often specialists are considered to be too specialized. Planning is a means by which a specialist may develop a more tolerant viewpoint because he will have opportunity to see that many of the problems cannot be solved by his line of work alone. It is also the responsibility of the specialist to formulate his program around the problems developed by planning committees.

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A show of hands indicated that 15 or 20 of those present were engaged in extension work 20 years ago when Mr. Gilbertson presented a planning program. At that time the proposed planning work was readily accepted. The present Land Use Planning program will be accepted in the same fine manner although it is more complicated than the planning program of 20 years ago. We have many new techniques to use at the present time and all extension workers see the opportunity of the present Land Use Planning program.

Discussions also indicated that the attitude of the people must be considered, at all times. There must be some action to follow planning.

The group was challenged by the question, "do we know extension?" It was pointed out that when the Extension Service was created, it was designed to be the agency by which all other agencies in the Department of Agriculture could serve the rural people. Extension was compared to a transmission line carrying the program of the Department to the rural people. It is necessary that every extension worker, as well as other agencies, realize the purpose of extension.

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